# Indiana Department of Workforce Development Strategic Skills Initiative Economic Growth Region 4

Mitch Daniels, Governor Ron Stiver, Commissioner June 2006

#### **About SSI**

Governor Daniels' \$23 million Strategic Skills (SSI) Initiative aims to identify and alleviate job and skill shortages. The program will be carried out in Indiana's 11 economic regions through an ongoing process of identifying future shortages, determining the cause of those shortages, and developing solutions. Ultimately SSI will create jobs and increase personal income for Hoosiers.

## **About Region 4**

- Population (July 2005)
   483,492
- Labor Force (March 2006)
   244,030
- Unemployment (March 2006) 5.5%
- Per Capita Income \$27,299 in 2004 Source: www.hoosierdata.in.gov

# **Counties in Region**

- Benton
- Warren
- Fountain
- White
- Tippecanoe
- Montgomery
- Carroll
- Clinton
- Cass
- Howard
- Tipton
- Miami





Economic Growth Region 4 is comprised of 12 counties. The SSI research & identification allocation awarded in September 2005 was \$221,674. The solutions allocations for Region 4 awarded in June 2006 is \$346,202. Methods used to identify key job shortages were focus groups; primary research; SSI Analysis Toolkits and web workshops.

Key Occupational Shortages	Projection 2005-2007
Metal and Plastic	660
Material Moving	440
Material, Recording, Scheduling, Dispatching, tributing	, Dis- 270
Other Maintenance and Repair	220
Supervisors of Production and Operating	40

**Emerging Industries / Occupations** 

Maintenance & Repair , General/Maintenance , Machinery

### **Root Causes**

- Low Awareness of Career Opportunities in Manufacturing
  - Manufacturing trades are not promoted in the home or school
- Employer screening and Assessment capabilities are limited and less effective than desired
  - Manufacturing HR departments spend an average of five weeks filling skilled positions
- Misalignment of Secondary/ Post-Secondary Education/ Training with Student/Employer Needs
  - There is a limited available skill pool due to current perceptions of the manufacturing industry.

Identified Solutions

Identified Solutions	
Solution: SKILL MAP	Dollars Allotted: \$346,202
Solution Description:  SKILL MAP is a 160-hour advanced manufacturing course. SKILL MAP will target manufacturing companies that are experiencing shortages and will train 300 workers. In addition to the training, lvy Tech Community College will provide testing for the Manufacturing Skill Standard Council (MSSC) certification, a national certification. 200 of those certified will be promoted or placed into high-skilled shortage occupations. SKILL MAP will fill occupation shortages of Region 4 and prepare workers for emerging occupations in advanced manufacturing.	

# Solution Totals

\$346,202

300 Hoosiers trained

225 certifications earned

200 placed in shortage occupations